

(c) a second functional layer containing a plastic layer that is a layer comprising a coextrusion-coated, a coextruded, and/or an extrusion-laminated film having a sequence of a first polypropylene layer, a polyamide layer, and a second polypropylene layer, said first polypropylene is directly bonded to metal foil (b) or is bonded to metal foil (b) by means of a bonding agent layer or a laminate adhesive layer, and, optionally, a primer layer is on at least one surface of metal foil (b).

39. The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 38, wherein the second functional layer (c) comprises a coextrusion-coated, a coextruded, and/or an extrusion-laminated film having a sequence of a first bonding agent layer, a first polypropylene layer, a second bonding agent layer, a polyamide layer, a third bonding agent layer, and a second polypropylene layer, the first bonding agent adhering together the metal foil (b) and the second functional layer (c).

40. The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 39, wherein the second functional layer (c) comprises a film having a sequence of a first bonding agent layer, a first polypropylene layer, a second bonding agent layer, a polyamide layer, a third bonding agent layer, and a second polypropylene layer, comprising extruded first bonding agent, laminated bonded first polypropylene, coextruded second bonding agent and polyamide, extruded third bonding agent, and laminated bonded second polypropylene, the first bonding agent adhering together the metal foil (b) and the second functional layer (c).

41. The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 40, wherein the second functional layer (c) comprises a film having a sequence of a first laminate adhesive layer, a first polypropylene layer, a second laminate adhesive layer, and a laminate bonded layered unit having a sequence of a polyamide layer, a bonding agent layer, and a

polypropylene layer, the first laminate adhesive adhering together the metal foil (b) and the second functional layer (c).

42. The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 41, wherein the second functional layer (c) comprises a film having a sequence of a coextrusion-coated first bonding agent layer, a first polypropylene layer, a second bonding agent layer, a polyamide layer, a third bonding agent layer, and a second polypropylene layer, the first bonding agent adhering together the metal foil (b) and the second functional layer (c).

43. The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 39, wherein the second functional layer (c) comprises a film having a sequence of a first bonding agent layer, a first polypropylene layer with a thickness of 10 to 20  $\mu\text{m}$ , a second bonding agent layer with a thickness of 3 to 15  $\mu\text{m}$ , a polyamide layer with a thickness of 10 to 40  $\mu\text{m}$ , a third bonding agent layer with a thickness of 3 to 15  $\mu\text{m}$ , and a second polypropylene layer with a thickness of 30 to 70  $\mu\text{m}$ .

44. The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 39, wherein the second functional layer (c) comprises a film having a sequence of a first bonding agent layer, a polypropylene layer, an extruded second bonding agent layer, a laminated bonded polyamide layer, an extruded third bonding agent layer, and a laminated bonded polypropylene layer, the first bonding agent adhering together the metal foil (b) and the second functional layer (c).

45. The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 39, wherein the second functional layer (c) comprises a coextrusion-coated film having a sequence of a first polypropylene layer, a polyamide layer, and a second polypropylene layer.

46. The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 38, wherein the second functional layer (c) comprises a coextruded film having a sequence of a first polypropylene layer, a polyamide layer, and a second polypropylene layer.

47. The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 38, wherein the second functional layer (c) comprises extrusion laminated film having a sequence of a first polypropylene layer, a polyamide layer, and a second polypropylene layer.

48. The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 39, wherein, in the second functional layer (c), each bonding agent layer has a thickness of 0.5 to 15  $\mu\text{m}$ .

49. The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 41, wherein, in the second functional layer (c), each laminate adhesive layer is provided in an amount from 0.5 to 10  $\text{g}/\text{m}^2$ .

50. A pouch for packaging, made from the sterilizable composite film according to Claim 38.

51. A sterilizable composite film containing a barrier layer that is impermeable to water vapor and gases comprising a metal foil and on both sides of the barrier layer at least one functional layer, the composite film having a layer structure containing one on top of the other:

(a) a first functional layer containing a first plastic film that is a polyester, a polyamide, or a polyolefin, or an extrusion layer of a polyolefin, or one or more lacquer layers, or print and lacquer layers, or print layers;

(b) a metal foil; and

(c) a second functional layer that is a second plastic film consisting of a coextruded polyamide-polypropylene film.

52. A sterilizable composite film containing a barrier layer that is impermeable to water vapor and gases comprising a metal foil and on both sides of the barrier layer at least one functional layer, the composite film having a layer structure containing one on top of the other in the following sequence:

- (a) a first functional layer containing a plastic film that is a polyester, a polyamide, or a polyolefin, or an extrusion layer of a polyolefin, or one or more lacquer layers, or print and lacquer layers, or print layers;
- (b) a metal foil having a thickness of 5 to 100  $\mu\text{m}$ ; and
- (c) a second functional layer containing a plastic layer that is a layer comprising a coextrusion-coated, a coextruded, and/or an extrusion-laminated film having a sequence of a first polypropylene layer, a polyamide layer, and a second polypropylene layer.

53. A sterilizable composite film containing a barrier layer that is impermeable to water vapor and gases comprising a metal foil and on both sides of the barrier layer at least one functional layer, the composite film having a layer structure containing one on top of the other in the following sequence:

- (a) a first functional layer containing a plastic film that is a polyester, a polyamide, or a polyolefin, or an extrusion layer of a polyolefin, or one or more lacquer layers, or print and lacquer layers, or print layers;
- (b) a metal foil having a thickness of 5 to 100  $\mu\text{m}$ ; and
- (c) a second functional layer containing a plastic layer that is a layer comprising a coextrusion-coated, a coextruded, and/or an extrusion-laminated film having a sequence of a first polypropylene layer, a polyamide layer, and a second nonstretched polypropylene layer.

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54. The sterilizable composite film of Claim 53, wherein metal foil (b) is composed of aluminum that has been pretreated on both surfaces by corona pretreatment, a primer layer, which is an epoxy resin or a polyurethane, on at least one surface, and has a thickness of 7 to 15  $\mu\text{m}$ , wherein the polyamide layer of second functional layer (c) is a polycaprolactam and has a thickness of 15 to 25  $\mu\text{m}$ , and the first functional layer (a) is a polyester film, a polyamide film or a polyolefin layer, and has a print layer on the outer surface thereof.

In the Specification:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.121, please insert on page 1, between the title and the first line, the following priority benefit paragraph. The changes made are shown explicitly in the attached "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made".

Please insert on page 1 between the title and the first line the following priority benefit paragraph:

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Continuing prosecution application of U.S. Serial No. 09/505,713, filed on February 17, 2000, which has priority benefit of Swiss Patent Application 1114/99, filed on June 15, 1999.